

Gator Gazette

AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND → 917th WING, BARKSDALE AFB, LA → JUNE 2000

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PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO
Staff Sgt. Steve Collins, Dixie Express trumpet player, moves among students at Airline High School during a concert performance.



PHOTO BY MRS. BELINDA BAZINET
Senior Master Sgt. Jack Story of the Bagpipe Band is interviewed on Tony Live by Tony Tagliavore, while performing concerts in the Shreveport-Bossier area.

Air Force Reserve Band improves awareness of 917th Wing

By Mrs. Belinda Bazinet
Wing Public Affairs

The Ark-La-Tex was alive with the sound of music last month when the Band of the Air Force Reserve from Robins Air Force Base, Ga., came to the area.

In five days, the Reserve band, and its eight distinct ensembles, gave 30 performances throughout the 917th recruiting area. The band wasn't in town just to provide entertainment. It also had an operational mission to accomplish.

The Band Strike Package, an initiative of the band's corporate board, concentrates Band resources at one location in order to make a considerable impact. This concentration effectively uses the band for recruiting, retention and community relations purposes.

"The Band Strike Package was a huge success!!! You can't put a dollar value on the public awareness and community relations achieved," Master Sgt. Larry

Giles, a 917th Wing recruiter, said. "We spoke to people who did not know that the Air Force Reserve was at Barksdale. Now, because of the Band, they know we're here."

Following a concert to a packed house at the Strand Theatre, band ensembles saturated the community with everything from jazz and Dixieland music to light classical, rock and roll and traditional Scottish bagpipe and drum music.

"We received an overwhelming positive response from the community at every venue we attended," Giles said. "The band members were true professionals, and the quality of music was outstanding."



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO
Tech. Sgt. Scott Gunn, a bagpiper, plays at the Veterans Administration Hospital during a Mother's Day performance.

A message from the Logistics Group Commander

Gator Gazette

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I was asked recently how it felt to have been a part of the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award, especially since it involved winning...for those of you who have been there, nothing beats being part of a winning team, something I am confident this year's Smart Pay team will experience.

I guess that's the way it has almost always been in America...we are and have been part of the winning team for a very long time. That comes from having an attitude of accomplishment, sincere appreciation for the good things in life, and an "arrogance" of having prevailed in hundreds of conflicts (mostly governmental or political, and a few militarily...little things like WWI & II, etc.). We can easily recognize folks who are only full of themselves (you know the type...always fussing with their uniforms and primping in the mirror, but can't really cut it or be counted on when the chips are down). Just as well, we all know the folks with real substance...those we count on to do it right and make the "miracles" happen.

We are on the threshold of our AEF, and though it has the makings of a home-station event, the preparations and planning cover the distinct possibility of placing our co-workers and friends in harms way, once again. It definitely makes a difference when the maintainers are prepping a jet they know is going to carry our crews to and from a battle area...but should it? Is it really any different whether it's "for real", or another training line? I don't think so, because practicing like you'll fight is something Col. Charlie Jones (DCM at Kunsan, Class of 89') hammered into this young Captain a few short summers ago. We practiced extremely hard, and frequently.

How, you're probably asking, is that pertinent to any portion of the 917th? Glad you asked...we

find ourselves in the preparatory stages for our own ORI, and the AEF package is the first step in that direction.

Taking a hard look at the way we do business is one historically successful way we in the military make sure we have corrected the foibles of the past, and pave the way for future successes. At one time or another, you've all heard of a double-edged sword... in the case of the entire 917th Wing, we have an outstanding reputation, which means we have to live up to being the best. The pitfall of past successes is that if we count on them to carry us over the hurdles of the future, we will discover it is a very short trip to mistakes, over-confidence, arrogance, and possibly failure.

We have a plan to practice all the essential elements of our AEF and ORI packages, and the plan will cover a year and a half...that means we don't have a whole lot of UTAs to work with, but we have just enough if we take the preparations seriously and do our part. My encouragement to all is that each Wing member recognize the seriousness of practicing hard...each of us knows that half-stepping the preparations won't impress our supervisors or co-workers, and more importantly, it won't impress any of us when we look in the mirror.



Lt. Col. John Douglas

Chaplain's Corner: Saying goodbye, saying hello

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles R. Langford

Life is full of goodbyes and hellos, and endings and beginnings. Now the time has come for me to say goodbye. After 33 years of association with the Air Force, I'm moving on to other endeavors.

As a reservist, I spent most of my time in the IMA program. Only since 1993 have I been a part of the 917th Wing, but I can truthfully say that it has been the most enjoyable part of my reserve duty. I'm proud to say "I was part of the 917th team!"

Yet, none of us can serve forever. So it is time to say goodbye and thank you! It is at times like this that I'm particularly thankful for my faith. The God I worship and serve is the One who specializes in opening doors and giving fresh starts. In his grace even our failures can be transformed into opportunities for growth. As this door closes, there will be others opening, and I will walk through them expectantly and pray that our paths cross again. Until we meet again, God bless and keep you and yours.

Did you know?

There is a 24-hour gym on base called **The Pump House**. It is located behind the Officers Club and is open to all personnel.

To gain access a code is re-

quired, which is available at the billeting office front desk.

The Officer's Club has opened its' **Sunday Brunch** to everyone at a cost of \$8.95 per person. It runs from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Also, the base **Youth Center** is open on Saturdays from 1-8 p.m. For a \$1.00 walk-in fee, kids 9 and above, can enjoy the gym, game room and other scheduled activity trips.

Deadlines near for officers to attend service schools

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Time is running out for Air Force Reserve Command officers who want to attend senior and intermediate service schools in residence next year.

Unit reservists have until Aug. 14 to submit applications to their numbered air force commanders, who in turn must forward the packages by Sept. 1 to the directorate of personnel's training support branch in Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command at Robins.

Reservists in full-time Active Guard and Reserve status need to send their applications to the Office of the Air Force Reserve's directorate of personnel in the Pentagon by Sept. 30.

Applicants must submit an 8 x 10 color photo in a full-length, ¾ turn pose without jacket and headgear. For the photo, they need to wear the long-sleeved shirt with decorations and a tie or tie tab. They should also review and update their personnel records, and furnish their last three officer performance reports.

Other requirements include complying with weight standards, not being removed from a recommended list for permanent promotion, and not having attended a resident professional military education course within the last three years.

To qualify for senior service schools, lieutenant colonel selects through colonels must have less than 26 years of total federal commissioned service and less than 16 years of total active

federal military service. Majors and major selects who want to go to the intermediate service school must have less than 18 years of total federal commissioned service and less than 16 years of total active federal military service.

Class dates for the following schools are tentatively set for Aug. 12, 2001, to June 18, 2002:

- National War College, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.;
- Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Fort McNair;
- Naval War College in Newport, R.I.; and
- Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Dates for Air War College, Maxwell AFB; Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.; and the Harvard National Security Fellows Program in Cambridge, Mass., are Aug. 1, 2001, to June 5, 2002.

The Reserve Central School Selection Board will meet in early December to pick primary and alternate candidates. Results of the board will be announced in January.

Reservists can obtain an Air Force Form 1941, Application for Professional Military Education (In Residence), from either the Air Force or Air Force Reserve Command Web pages, or through their training office. Wing training offices also have more information. (AFRC News Service)

Bank of America warning

The Military Banking Division of BofA who runs the overseas "Community Bank" and many on-base bank at Army, Navy and AF bases in CONUS has sent credit card mailers to customers of the BofA, "Military Bank". THIS IS NOT related to the travel card contract in any way. This is advertising for Spring convenience checks and CAN NOT be used with the Travel Card. This is a separate division within the BofA corporation.

Some of you may remember last year just before Dec 25, this happened and many people were upset because they thought the travel card was responsible for this. Again, this does not apply to the government travel card program. Please assure, people understand it is in no way related to the travel card program. The address file for this mailing came from the Military Bank division of BofA and not the TC data base.

Mandatory training on homosexual policy

The Air Force Chief of Staff has re-emphasized the homosexual policy of the Air Force along with training requirements to implement the policy.

Training was held for all commanders

and first sergeants during the May 7 UTA. The remaining supervisors are scheduled for briefings on June 4 at either 8 or 9 a.m., or noon or 1 p.m. Also, for those who perform the alternate UTA, training is scheduled for June 10 at 9 or 10 a.m.

If you have any questions, contact Maj. Garth Terry at 456-8144.

Fans needed for elderly

The annual 917th Wing fan drive will be held during the months of June and July. Each unit is ask to donate at least one breeze box fan to be given to the Bossier or Caddo Council on Aging. The POCs are Master Sgt. Jorge Feliciano at 456-9488 or Tech. Sgt. Monique Bonton, 456-8067.

Commander's Cup Golf Tournament rescheduled for July

Due to flooding on the golf course the Commander's Cup Golf tournament is rescheduled for July 8.

All personnel signed up for the tournament must report to work at 6 a.m. that morning. Tee time is 2 p.m. and each team must be on their designated holes at that time. For more information contact Master Sgts. Allen Atkins at 456-9027 or Jessica D'Aurizio at 456-9181.

Tickets on sale for the maintenance awards banquet

Gatorfest 2000, the first maintenance awards banquet is scheduled for October 14 at the Louisiana Downs Courtyard.

The banquet will include dinner, awards, entertainment and dancing. Starting June 1 tickets will be available for \$17.50 per person. For more information contact Master Sgt. Pete Bretzman at 456-9082.

Physical examinations policy change

Beginning the June UTA, the 917th Medical Squadron's physical examination process will undergo the following changes:

- All history and physical examinations for both flyers and non-flyers will be accomplished in the Family Practice Clinic in the hospital.

- Dental evaluations will be performed in the oral surgery suite on the second floor of the hospital.

- Hearing tests will be administered at the Ear, Nose and Throat department on the third floor of the hospital.

- Vision testing will be in the Optometry building across the parking lot from the hospital.

The only entrance into the hospital is through the emergency room.

"EAF Online" offers electronic gateway for AEF deployments

by Capt. Wilson Camelo

Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — To help ensure people deploying as part of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force concept are fully prepared for their arrival in theater, the Aerospace Expeditionary Force Center unveiled the first version of an electronic one stop shop for AEF deployments April 15.

Called EAF Online, the Web site will feature training templates airmen can access to obtain information on actions they need to complete — specific to their Air Force Specialty Code — before deploying, said Lt. Col. Gordon Bennett, the Web site project officer.

The restricted Web site will only be available via military computers at <http://aefcenter.acc.af.mil/eafonline>.

The April 15 version will feature training templates for communications, legal and maintenance AFSCs deploying for Operation Southern Watch. The completed version with training templates for all AFSCs deploying to support any steady state deployment will be available by October, Bennett said.

"The goal is to have EAF Online serve as the backbone for all AEF actions for people deploying to support Air Force worldwide operations," he said. "We want everyone identified for an AEF deployment to go to this site first to obtain the informa-

tion on actions they need to complete so they are ready to hit the ground running when they arrive at their deployed location."

Those actions include required training, shots, and qualifications for each AFSC and location. Once logged onto EAF Online — accomplished by entering a career field, AEF number, deployment location and home base in specific fields — people can access the requirements and training needed for the deployment, such as weapons, chemical warfare and air base ground defense. The site will also feature force protection and geopolitical issues, lessons learned from previous rotations and links to related news articles.

"We want to make people smart and do as much training as we can on this side of the ocean," the colonel said. "This will benefit the people on the other side of the ocean when they receive a fully-trained, fully-briefed airman."

Conducting briefings and training on this side of the ocean also has positive implications for the large number of reserve forces filling AEF taskings according to Bennett.

"Giving reservists the ability to obtain their training and complete their requirements at home will pay off big down the line, and make this critical portion of our Air Force even more effective in a deployed environment," Bennett said. Air National Guard and Reserve members are filling ap-

proximately 10 percent of the AEF taskings.

As the Web site is developed other aspects such as "Right Start" briefings, travel arrangements, and issues such as orders, pay and outprocessing actions will be added.

Bennett stressed that EAF Online's success depends on feedback from airmen in the field. The Web site will let users provide feedback directly to the AEF Center. "We hope people of all specialties will visit the site, and suggest ways to improve our information. The site is for the deploying troop — we are trying to present information they will need, and consider valuable. Feedback is essential for our success," he said.

The October upgrade to EAF Online will also benefit commanders by allowing them to track the readiness status of their units and people. More importantly, it will help them manage individual operations tempo by providing a database of assigned people that can be sorted in various fields, including number of days already spent on temporary duty assignments.

The AEF Center is a centralized, cross-functional, total force team designed to facilitate EAF operations. Its mission is to assist EAF operations in the sourcing of AEF assets, identifying and refining training requirements, monitoring readiness, and guiding deployment and redeployment planning.

Multimedia Course 5 replaces printed version of SNCOA

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Effective Oct. 1, Air Force reservists will no longer be authorized to enroll in the paper-based Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy Correspondence Course 8.

Instead, they will sign up for the SNCOA Multimedia Course 5 or attend the academy in residence. Air Force Reserve Command receives 80 slots annually for unit program master sergeants and master sergeant selectees to attend the academy at Maxwell AFB Gunter Annex, Ala. In addition, 10 individual mobilization augmentees can go in residence each year.

People actively enrolled in Course 8 before the Oct. 1 cutoff date will be allowed to complete the course.

Reservists in full-time Active Guard and Reserve status, as well as active-duty personnel, will not be allowed to enroll in Course 8 as of June 1.

The Air Force director of personnel in coordination with the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education announced the changes in March. (AFRC News Service from an Air Education and Training Command news release)

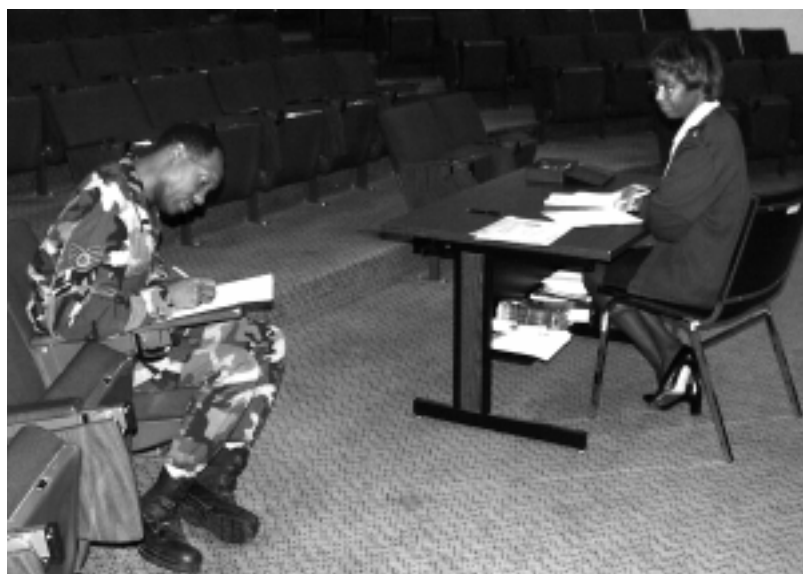


PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO
Tech. Sgt. Cathy Banks, 917th Education and Training, administers a test to Staff Sgt. Rickey Johnson, 917th Services Squadron.

47th FS takes 1st Place in basketball tournament

By Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio
Wing Public Affairs

The 917th Wing held a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament as one of its' Family Day activities during the May UTA.

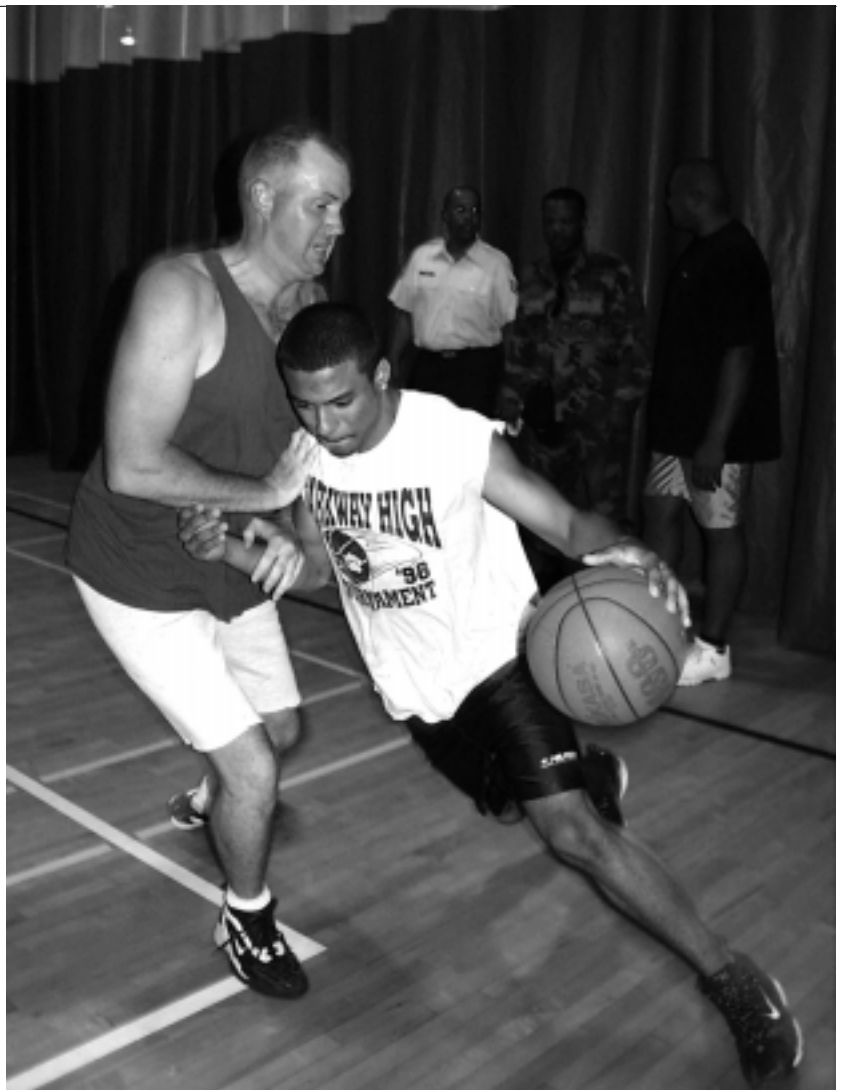
The tournament took place at the base gym. It included 14 teams who participated in a double elimination playoff. A total of 27 games were played. One team was made up solely of women. They charged the goal and took second place.

"The guys were all impressed with the talent on their team," said Master Sgt. Anthony Whitaker, tournament coordinator. Each game winner was the first team to reach a score of 15 or to play for 20 minutes.

The 47th Fighter Squadron team; Rodney Glass, Floyd Whitley, Bernard Wood and Kenneth Paysinger took first place in a play off game with the 917th Mission Support team; Gromika Jones, Tyosha Johnson, and Latoya Dorsey. The 917th MSSQ finished in second place and third went to the Logistic Group team; Jonathan Gunn, Dave



Senior Airman Lee Love, 917th Security Forces, shots a long shot during the 3-on-3 Basketball tournament.



PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AUORIZIO
Staff Sgt. Richard Tucker, 307th RED HORSE, guards a Mission Support team member as he drives the goal.

Fogg, Robert Hunter and Jessie Mitchell.

Individual Trophies were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. And T-Shirts are ordered for all participants.

917th Civil Engineer Squadron members trains in Kuwait

By Senior Shannon Collins
Wing Public Affairs

As the Marines landed their smoking helicopter, the roaring fire truck rushed toward them. Airmen from around the world rushed out to help in any way they could. As the Reserve airmen avidly watched, the skilled active-duty airmen went through all safety checks. The flightline was hot, and the desert sand blew in their faces as they towed the helicopter off the flightline with the only equipment available, the fire truck.

Six of the 917th Civil Engineer Squadron firemen deployed to al-Alsaleem, Kuwait; three went to al-Jabbar, Kuwait; and two traveled to Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, from April 8-24 for their annual tour.

Throughout the two-week deployment, the Reserve firefighters worked side by side with active-duty American

airmen, and soldiers and British Royal Air Force airmen at the contingency bases.

"We supported their crash fire rescue," said Tech. Sgt. Jack Lanier, 917th CES. "We had two different fire stations— one to cover crashes on the flightline side and the other to cover tent city where all the American airmen and soldiers lived.

"It was a real world contingency," continued Lanier, one of the airmen stationed in al-Jabbar for two weeks. "The only fighters we had there were the British Royal Air Force, and we supported their bombing mission. Just being able to work in that atmosphere is something we train on all the time. This was the first time most of us got the opportunity to go to the area of

➔ See Kuwait continued on Page 9



PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO

Tech. Sgts. Stan Roberts, 917th Maintenance and Terry Peek, 93rd Bomb Squadron, cook hot dogs and hamburgers for Family Day 2000.



Kyle Owens, enjoys a burger after participating in the Karate event held during Family Day.



Master Sgt. Johnny Blocker, 917th Mission Support, dunks Maj. Ken Honaker in the dunking booth in the A-10 hangar.



Staff Sgt. Davey Ellis, 917th Maintenance provides entertainment during Family Day.



Austin Roach takes advantage of the putting green offered at Family Day.



Capt. Alan Ringle, 93rd Bomb Squadron hangs on to son Andrew as they watch other kids enjoy the Space Walk station during Family Day 2000.



Tricia Lodrini plays Bingo to win the big prize at one of the many booths set up in the A-10 hangar for Family Day.

Family Day... fun for all

**By Capt. Jeri Hansen
Wing Public Affairs**

The view from the inside of a jail cell is...striped.

The jailhouse where, for a small fee, "criminals" could be arrested and thrown in the slammer, was one of the many fundraisers at last month's successful 917th Wing Family Day. 917th members brought their families in droves to the A-10 hangar. (The location was switched from Cullen Park because of all the rain during the previous week. The park was muddy, the grass was tall and the mosquitoes were thick.)

The first item on the agenda was food! Our official food critic, Michael Walker, age 10 and grandson of Master Sgt. Curtis Davis, 917th Maintenance Squadron, said, "Pretty darn good hot dog!" He must have known what he was talking about since the food line was the longest around, serving more than 3,100 hamburgers and hot dogs.

After eating, you could play horseshoes or putt-putt golf, watch the military working dogs demonstration, join the water balloon toss, ride the kiddie train or just kick back and listen to the cool sounds of the Copperhead Band. Brittany Shankle, age 5, daughter of Tech Sgt. David Shankle, 47th Fighter Squadron, said, "The moonwalk was the most fun!" However, Cassy Rains, age 10 and daughter of SSgt Kerry Rains, 917th Maintenance Squadron, said, "The dunking booth was the coolest!"



The food serving line proved to be the most interesting for participants of Family Day 2000. It continued to be the longest throughout the day.



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN SHANNON COLLINS

Tammy Smith and Michelle Ringle board a KC-10 from the 78th Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, N. J., for a Spouses Flight hosted by the 93rd Bomb Squadron at Barksdale AFB, La.

During the May UTA, spouses of the 93rd Bomb Squadron were offered a chance to ride in a KC-10 tanker and watch an inflight refueling of a B-52. The 78th Air Refueling Squadron out of McGuire AFB, N. J., provided the aircraft for the flight.

"Spouse orientation flights are great," said Tech. Sgt. Marty



A B-52 pulls up to the 78 ARS for an inflight refueling during the 93rd BS Spouse's Flight.

Flight gives spouses better understanding

By Master Sgt. Greg Steele
93rd Bomb Squadron UPAR



Becky Alvarez sits in the cockpit of a KC-10 before takeoff for the 93rd Bomb Squadron Spouses Flight.

Johnson, 78th ARS. "Showing the wives the job we do gives them a better understanding of how important our jobs are." Before flying, the spouses were briefed by Col. Bruce Kintner, 93rd BS commander, concerning the history of the 93rd BS, the mission of the squadron and upcoming deployments. During their flight, the spouses were able to see up-close and personal the air refueling of a 93rd B-52.

"I am grateful to the wing and the crew from the 78th ARS for sharing their jobs with us," said Michele Ringle, wife of Capt. Alan Ringle. "It was fun to see things behind the scenes." There were approximately 45 wives that were able to make the KC-10 flight.

"The real heroes are the silent partners, our spouses who are so seldom recognized," said Senior Master Sgt. Bill Holland, 93rd BS first sergeant. "These incentive flights are a small way for those of us who serve to say thank you for supporting us."

93rd Bomb Squadron excels at Red Flag



PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO
Staff Sgt. Mark Vagrin, 93rd Bomb Squadron crewchief, performs pre-flight inspection check on a deployed B-52.

By Master Sgt. Greg Steele
93rd Bomb Squadron
UPAR

The 93rd Bomb Squadron participated in a Red Flag exercise from March 25-April 8, 2000. Red Flag is a large scale, multi-national air combat training exercise sponsored by Air Combat Command.

This exercise, held at Nellis AFB, Nevada, enables squadrons to practice with their Air Expeditionary Force counterparts. Two aircrews, ten maintenance personnel and a B-52 were sent from the 93rd BS squadron.

"Our role was to perform strategic attack/interdiction and suppression of enemy air defenses," says Col. Bruce Kintner, 93rd BS, commander. "This allowed us to hone our combat skills; for both the flying and the maintenance aspects."

The crews flew 14 sorties and accumulated 43 flying hours in aircraft 0003 during the exercise. This aircraft was relied upon heavily because of other aircraft maintenance problems, resulting in three maintainers, from the 93rd BS, being selected as Exceptional Performers for the entire exercise.

"The efforts of Staff Sgts. Mike Miller, Mark Vagrin and Wayne Eikner were noticed by active duty," said Kintner. "Their selection as Exceptional Performers were well deserved."

"These exercises are beneficial for us because we get to work as a team with active duty and we learn what to expect from each other," said Staff Sgt. Mike Miller, 93rd BS crewchief.



Staff Sgt. Mike Miller, 93rd BS crewchief, performs inspection on maintenance toolbox.

Kuwait

Continued from Page 5

operation and do what we've been training to do. It was an interesting experience."

"In wartime conditions, you get that training you don't really get here," said Tech. Sgt. David Jackson, 917th CES. "You train for it, but over there, it's real. You have the force protection, and you know the terrorist threat is always a problem. It's good training."

The airmen worked with new aircraft during their deployment.

"I've never worked on a Huey before. We went out and did our job and got familiar with it. We also got familiar with some of the C-130s we don't necessarily see every day here. Getting to see different aircraft was good for our training," Tech. Sgt. Robert Crouch, an airman stationed at al-Alsaleem, stated excitedly.

Working with these aircraft allows the firemen to become familiar with the aircraft itself as well as how to safely inspect them, how to shut down equipment when necessary and how to make the aircraft fire safe if there is an electrical or fuel fire.

"We learned what to do to put a fire out the quickest and how to get the people off the plane," said Crouch. "I had never trained on any kind of helicopter. We got some good training in an actual emergency situation. After it was over, we towed the aircraft with our fire truck."

The airmen returned to the states with many stories about Muslim culture, swapping stories with British airmen and how the oil shined like a pond on the surface of the desert sand.

Voices: How do you support your family member in accomplishing their responsibilities to the Reserve?



Jesse Car, son of Senior Airman Ava Norris 917th Medical Squadron

"I help clean up around the house by making my bed and her bed."



Gerry Castellani, wife of Maj. Mike Castellani 93rd Bomb Squadron

"I take care of our kids and his uniform. Also, I give him a kiss every morning when he leaves."



Jeroline and Douglas Robinson, wife and son of Staff Sgt. Douglas Robinson 917th Logistics Squadron

"I get up on Saturday of the UTA to get him off, and I pray for him because he usually works the entire night before."



Bobbie Bryant, fiancée of Staff Sgt. Harold Duran 917th Civil Engineer Squadron

"I iron his uniforms and he's picky about how they look."

Basic or bust

**By Senior Airman Shannon Collins
Wing Public Affairs**

With the first step off of the bus, yelling started. "Give me a reporting statement you freaking' genius," the training instructor yells six inches from my face.

After what feels like hours, we pick up our bags and march to an open bay with 45 to 50 beds. "Why am I here?" I think to myself for the hundredth time.

In one of our many day room meetings, the training instructor tells us we must fold our shirts into six-inch squares. "Why?" I ask myself. "What's the big deal?" As the weeks progress, the purpose of this unique training starts to sink in. Some people in the Air Force think basic training is all about seeing if you can follow simple instructions, and perform basic duties. I feel basic is much more than that.

Training instructors and fellow airmen tell me "you can do anything" and "you are the only person, who can motivate you." Too many doubts and not enough self-confidence and pride in something clouds my thoughts and emotions.

As I sat there in the day room and classrooms, marched to and from everywhere and strived to one day wear my blues, I learned a valuable lesson. If you let the system work, basic training shows you the "big picture."

Being scared of the unknown didn't control my life anymore. Pride in myself and what I do enveloped me and started turning me into the person I am meant to be.

As I let the big picture and reality set in, I realized my priorities were misplaced.

"A 30-minute patio break with phone calls home, sodas and candy; did I earn them?" I started asking myself. "Do I want to coast by, or do I want to see what I'm made of?"

Wearing my dress blues, saluting the flag and knowing I deserve to be part of the force which defends our country and its way of life makes my eyes shine a little brighter and my heart and chest swell with pride. If you don't hear "Taps" and stand at attention and think of those who gave their lives for us, then I feel for you.

Though it's been a year since I've been to basic training, and I've strayed a little; I still think of the three phrases most important to the Air Force way of life: Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

The training I learned in basic training continues to help me focus on my goals in life.

Newcomers

93rd Bomb Squadron

Staff Sgt. Maurice Kent, Daytona Beach, Fla.
Senior Airman Stephen Laviolette, Phoenix, Ariz.

Senior Airman Jimmy Price, Jr., Linden, Texas

Senior Airman Christopher Bright, Flint, Texas
Senior Airman Buddy Keechel, Shreveport, La.

917th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Lanona Mathis, Shreveport, La.
Senior Airman Wilbert Smith, Jr., Bossier City, La.

917th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Patrick Patterson, Tyler, Texas

917th Medical Support Squadron

Maj. Linda Little, Telephone, Texas
Staff Sgt. Raymond Nash, Tallulah, La.

307th RED HORSE Squadron

Senior Airman Chris Blackman, Alexandria, La.

917th Logistics Support Squadron

Senior Airman Enid Odums, Minden, La.
Senior Airman Marc McGehee, Brownsboro, Texas
Airman 1st Class Pamela Johnson, Bossier City, La.

917th Operations Support Flight

Senior Airman Carlota Naquin, Bossier City, La.

917th Communication Squadron

Senior Airman George Lazaraz, Texarkana, Texas

917th Services Squadron

Staff Sgt. Linda Coronado, Lewisville, Texas

47th Fighter Squadron

Capt. James McCaulay, Bossier City, La.

917th Wing Training Schedule

June UTA 3-4

Time	Event	Location
Saturday		
0600	UTA prayer breakfast	Red River Inn Dining
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned unit
0700	Wing staff meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0700-0830	Intro -- all newcomers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0730	Long & Short fly physicals	Flight surgeon office
0730-1030	Immunizations	Base hospital
0800	Physicals (non-fly)	Base hospital foyer
0800	Chem. Warfare Refresher	Hangar 7
0900-1000	Yellow fever shots	Base hospital
0900	Anti-terrorism training	Bldg. 6803, Rm 227
0900	OJT meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0930, 1030 & 1330	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1000	First sergeants meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1100-1530	Blood Drive	Headquarters parking lot
1300	Honor guard training	Bldg. 7268
1330-1445	ORM training, Phase II (MSSQ)	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1500	Wing commander's call	A-10 Hangar
1550-1615	Sign-out 1550 -- LG 1600 --MS	1610 -CES, MSS, WG
Sunday		
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned Unit
0800	Human Relations	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0800	Homosexual policy training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0800	Initial Chem. Warfare	Hangar 7
0800-1200	EO 2000	Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor
0900	Homosexaul policy training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0900	Substance Abuse	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0900	Catholic Mass	Base Chapel 2
0900-1200	Intermediate Excel	STARBASE
1000	Unit advisory council	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1015-1100	Protestant services	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1030	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1200	Homosexual policy training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1230	EOC testing	Bldg. 4314, 3rd floor
1300	HRDC	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1300	Eyeglass inserts	Bldg. 4845 (by hospital)
1300	Flightline drivers training	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243
1300	Homosexual policy training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1330	MSSQ commander's call	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1430	SORTS meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1515	LSS commander's call	Bldg. 6803, Rm 227
1550-1615	Sign-out 1550 -- LG 1600 --MS	1610 -CES, MSS, WG

Know anyone who is looking for a recruiter?

Barksdale AFB, La.

Master Sgt. Larry Giles
Master Sgt. Joe Menna
1-800-241-4071

Little Rock AFB, Ark.

Master Sgt. Kris Jaso
501-987-7188

Mesquite/Tyler, Texas

Staff Sgt. Brian Mobely
972-681-6384/903-534-8618

Shreveport, La.

Tech. Sgt. Don Copeland
318-683-0331

Texarkana, Texas

Staff Sgt. TeNeuss Land
903-223-7030

Monroe, La.

Master Sgt. James Headrick
318-323-1898

SERVICES

917th Military Personnel Flight

Bldg. 6803, Room 140, ext. 9205

Saturday

7 - 11 a.m. - Newcomers in-processing.
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)

Sunday

7 - 8 a.m. - Closed for training.
8 a.m. - 2 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)
2:30 - 4 p.m. - Closed for training.

Monday - Friday

7 a.m. - 4 p.m. All service.

NOTE: Customer Service functions include in & out processing, ID cards, DEERS, DD93s, SGLI, Vehicle Decals, Record Reviews, etc.

Base Billeting

Bldg. 5155, 456-3091/3092

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week (reservations required).

Chaplain

Bldg. 6803, Room 239, 456-9179

Saturday & Sunday - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Red River Dining Hall

Bldg. 4631

Breakfast - 5:30 - 6:30 a.m.

Lunch MS - 11 - 1

47FS - 11:45 WG - 11

MSS - 11:45 93 BS - 11:15

CES - noon SFS - 12:15

Shuttle service to the dining hall runs every 20 minutes starting at 11 a.m.. Pick-up points are Bldg. 6850 and Bldg. 6825 (northeast side of Bldg. 6803)

NOTE: You must show ID card, newcomer's letter or DD form 1172.

Family Readiness

Bldg. 4713

Saturday & Sunday - 8 - 11 a.m.

Military drivers license

Military drivers license issue is available on the main UTA in Bldg. 6825, Rm. 240. Issue hours are as follows:

Saturday & Sunday noon - 2 p.m.

Lodging

For information on official or space A lodging call 1-888-AF-LODGE. Once the automated system answers, key in the first three letters of the base you are trying to reach.

Military Pay

Main UTA hours of operation:

Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sun. 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Military clothing issue

Wednesday 10 a.m. - 11:30

Main UTA Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO
 Jackie Palmer and Tanner Hook, godchildren of Betty Lou Nadig, open candy while on the train ride during Family Day 2000.

Promotions

Senior Master Sergeant

J. G. Hamilton

Stephen Lindberg

Master Sergeant

Eldon Ashley

James Baumgartner

Thomas Hire

Daily Johnson

Johyn McClain

Christopher Scolar

Nelson Stephenson

Robert Winkler

Technical Sergeant

Victoria Beard

Bradley Cressman

Robert Crouch, II

Harold Duran

Terrell Eikner

David Freeman

Patrick Green

David Jackson

Larry Jones

Lonny Lipscomb

Jimmy Mobley, Jr.

Paul Oster

Bradley Parnell

Chris Webb

Staff Sergeant

Michael Barr

Jon Butler

Ricky Ford

Trenton Hill, Sr.

Rodney Jones

James Lawrence

Henry May

Tracy Roach

Dale Sammons

Senior Airman

Jarvis Bradley

John McClelland

Steven Rice

Madonna Webb

Airman 1st Class

Joseph Hodges

Casey Roberson

Airman

Debra Beard

Tina Cole

Mariano Derige

Help Wanted

Blood Donors

Saturday, June 3rd

11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wing Headquarters parking lot

UTA Schedule

Main

June 3-4

July 8-9

August 5-6

Sept. 9-10

Oct. 14-15

Nov. 4-5

Dec. 2-3

Jan. 6-7, 2001

Feb. 3-4

Mar. 3-4

Apr. 7-8

May 5-6

June 2-3

Alternate

June 10-11

July 15-16

August 12-13

Sept. 16-17

Oct. 21-22

Nov. 18-19

Dec. 2-3

Jan. 20-21, 2001

Feb. 10-11

Mar. 17-18

Apr. 21-22

May 19-20

June 23-24

917th Wing
 1000 Davis Ave. East
 Barksdale AFB, LA 71110-2287

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